

Florida Tech TODAY

A magazine for Alumni and Friends of Florida Institute of Technology

FALL 2010



FIRST STOP FLORIDA TECH

NEXT STOP MTV NEWS

Jenny McCoy '06 applied for her dream job
in New York City ... and got it.

IN THIS ISSUE >

Surfing Panthers—First in Florida
Football Fundraising in Full Swing
Knock 'em Down: Bowling Anecdotes

President's Perspective

Dear Florida Tech Alumni and Friends,



We are very proud of our technological and scientific history at Florida Tech—that expertise forms the foundation of this great university. However, we should not forget that Florida Tech is also creative, artistic, athletic and fun!

A great example of this is seen in one of our features in this issue. The university's surf team is making waves from coast to coast, ranked #1 in Florida and #8 in the nation. The skill, athleticism and, yes, artistry required for such accomplishment embodies the very spirit of achievement that we hope all Florida Tech students aspire to attain.

It was Albert Einstein who said, "After a certain high level of technical skill is achieved, science and art tend to coalesce in esthetics, plasticity and form. The greatest scientists are always artists as well."

I agree. Well-rounded people need a wealth of experiences that hone their analytical skills, spark their imaginations as well as energize their physical endurances. That fundamental philosophy will serve you best, whether standing on a surfboard or in a science lab.

Our diverse experiences make us who we are—and in this case, more is better!

Sincerely yours,

A.J. Catanese, Ph.D., FAICP

Panther Football Needs You!

Director of Athletic Partnerships and former Holy Trinity Head Football Coach **John Thomas** has been appointed director of football operations and is leading the fundraising drive. "We have established a long-term plan that not only brings the excitement and intangibles of college football to our campus but brings economic development to our area."

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Florida Tech TODAY <http://today.fit.edu>
 Florida Institute of Technology
 PRESIDENT Anthony James Catanese, Ph.D., FAICP
 SR. VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVANCEMENT Kenneth P. Stackpole, Ph.D.
 ASSOC. VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY RELATIONS Wes Sumner

Florida Tech TODAY is published three times a year by Florida Tech's Office for Advancement and is distributed to over 50,000 readers.
 MANAGING EDITOR/DESIGNER Judi Tintera, jtintera@fit.edu
 EDITOR Christena Callahan, ccallaha@fit.edu
 ASSISTANT EDITOR Karen Rhine, krhine@fit.edu
 CLASS NOTES REPORTER Verna Layman, vlayman@fit.edu
 ON THE ROAD REPORTER Debra Richbourg Wolfard, dwolfard@fit.edu
 CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Joan Bixby, Christena Callahan, Ryan Jones, Jenny McCoy, Karen Rhine, Gretchen Sauerman, Wes Sumner, Rebecca Vick, Kristine Woolley
 PRODUCTION Rob Gribbroek, Kristie Kwong
 WEB LAYOUT Joshua Culver
 CIRCULATION Ali Faisal, Robert Russell
 PHOTOGRAPHY Dominic Agostino, Mike Brown (Florida Today) Patricia Giobetti, Anthony James, W. Keel (University of Alabama), Zehra Ratani, Karen Rhine, Wes Sumner, Judi Tintera

ALUMNI OFFICE
 ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR ALUMNI RELATIONS AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
 Bino Campanini (321) 674-8434, bcampanini@fit.edu
 DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP, MARKETING AND PROGRAMS AND ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
 Diane Deaton (321) 674-7198, ddeaton@fit.edu
 ASSISTANT ALUMNI DIRECTOR Marjorie Beckett '98, '08 (321) 674-7642, mbeckett@fit.edu
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Hazel Roskamp (321) 674-7190, hrosskam@fit.edu
 ALUMNI AFFAIRS COORDINATOR Debra Richbourg Wolfard (321) 674-6143, dwolfard@fit.edu
 ANNUAL GIVING ASSOCIATE Melissa Klos, (321) 674-6826, mklos@fit.edu
 HOW TO KEEP IN TOUCH
 Florida Tech, Office of University Communications, 150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32901-6975 (321) 674-6218, Fax (321) 674-6399, fltechtoday@fit.edu
 CHANGING ADDRESSES?
 Don't leave copies of your alumni magazine behind. Send your new address to Florida Tech, Office of Alumni Affairs, 150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32901-6975, hrosskam@fit.edu
 ADVERTISING SALES
 Jennifer Neuhard, Associate Provost for University Marketing, (321) 674-8935, jneuhard@fit.edu



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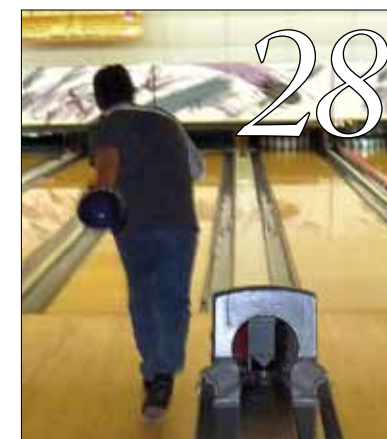


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On the cover: Jenny McCoy, social media manager for MTV News, stands in a studio of the MTV offices overlooking Times Square. (Photo composite by Judi Tintera)

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Alumni Association
 Alan Prestwood '73 '80, President
 West Melbourne, FL
alan.prestwood@gmail.com
 John Valente '76 '81, Vice President
 Hampstead, NC
jfunding76@yahoo.com
 Mike Gordon '94 '00, Treasurer
 Palm Bay, FL
mlgordon@cfl.rr.com
 Alexis Loo '75, Secretary
 Pasadena, MD
alexisloo@msn.com



Just Can't Hide That Panther Pride

Jennifer Marody McKillip is a financial aid counselor in Florida Tech's Financial Aid Office. Pictured here are her dogs and her son showcasing their Panther pride. From left are Sir Happy Sunshine, Holly Ann, Lily Jayne and Duke sitting on her son Guy's lap.



Science and Space Day Awes at Scott Center

A Science and Space Day was held during the summer at the Scott Center for Autism Treatment. Capt. **Winston Scott** (no relation), dean of the College of Aeronautics and a former astronaut, demonstrated what it was like to be an astronaut. He allowed the children to wear his flight helmet, took pictures with them and showed them how to walk on the moon in a moonwalker bounce house brought onto the center's

playground. To the delight of the children, College of Engineering staff member **Stephanie Hopper** shot off a rocket.

Kudos

I just received my new *Florida Tech TODAY* a couple of days ago, and I must say it is the absolute best one I've ever seen—including the ones with our astronauts. I loved the human interest with all the alumni and their careers. Beautifully done, beautifully done!

*Elaine Taylor
retired staff member
Office for Advancement*

We'd love to hear from you. Tell us what you'd like to see and give us your responses to the articles you've read in the magazine. Send your comments to fltechtoday@fit.edu.

To Market, to Market: Research Licensing

Florida Tech's Office of Intellectual Property, part of the Office of Strategic Initiatives, keeps an eye on technology transfer possibilities. The office helps faculty members protect their developments by patenting and assists in licensing the technologies for additional refinement and marketing. More and more, faculty members turn their work into commercial applications and license their technology to industry partners.

An example is use by director of the university's biomedical engineering program **Kunal Mitra** of an ultra-short pulse laser system. He's applying it to such projects as real-time imaging of early stage skin cancer and subsequent tumor irradiation, using a focused laser beam. The technique provides a complete 3-D view of the scanned area for detecting small tumors and their margins not normally detected by other techniques. Mitra is now in a marketing partnership with Bay Street Company.

"There is no existing system that can perform non-invasive simultaneous diagnosis and treatment of skin cancer," said Mitra, who has filed a patent application on the detection portion of the technology.

Military uses, according to Mitra, include mine detection and target identification.

Another example of licensed university technology is a chemical compound. Associate Professor **Nasri Nesnas** was familiar as a chemist with the chemical compound CDNI-Glu, a commonly used laboratory research tool. Most often, neuroscientists use it to study the brain's neural networks by improving the localization of synaptic stimulation.

Because he thought it could be made faster and less expensively than currently, Nesnas developed an improved process for its synthesis with the help of graduate student **Yannick Ouedraogo**. "He worked day and night on it," said Nesnas.

"We cut the steps nearly in half and reduced the time to make it from 150 hours to 24 hours," said Nesnas.

To make Nesnas' original compound commercially available, Florida Tech is licensing it to the U.K. company Tocris, a supplier of innovative, high performance life science research reagents.



Kunal Mitra



Nasri Nesnas

Karen Rhine

In Memoriam: George Shaw, Founding Father

George Shaw, founding trustee of Florida Institute of Technology, passed away June 15 at his home in Melbourne. A technological visionary, Shaw was co-founder of Radiation Inc., the telemetry company that later became Harris Corp. He was a steadfast supporter of Jerry Keuper's effort to start a college and recognized the value it would bring to the area and to Radiation, especially in recruiting employees.

Shaw led the board of trustees in its infancy and remained active throughout his lifetime.

"He went to every board meeting, came to almost every event on campus," said President **Anthony J. Catanese**.

Shaw was pleased to see the university grow and thrive.

"I always expected Florida Tech to be what it is today," he said in a 2007 interview.

Born Oct. 27, 1921, in Brattleboro, Vt., Shaw married Mary Heath Robertson in 1945. The couple has three children.

A private memorial was held in Shaw's honor.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to one of the following Florida Tech funds: Ocean Research at the Anchorage; Aviation Research Fund or the George Shaw Marine Environmental Research Fund. Send checks to: Florida Institute of Technology, Office of Development, 150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32901. Please write "George Shaw" along with which fund you are supporting in the memo line of the check.



The first two chairmen of the board George Shaw (left) and Denton Clark with a portrait of university founder Jerome P. Keuper in 2007.

University Lands Helicopter Training



Florida Tech and Bristow Academy Inc. in Titusville, Fla., a division of Bristow Group Inc. (NYSE:BRS), have forged a strategic partnership to offer a combined program of university aviation education and helicopter flight training beginning fall 2010.

This innovative program offers a university education to

students seeking careers as professional pilots in the expanding helicopter industry. It is anticipated this program will be especially attractive to eligible military veterans under the new Post-9/11 GI Bill, which provides benefits to fully fund the combined program.

As of early June, at least two current Florida Tech aeronautics

students, post 9-11 GI Bill veterans, were on track for helicopter pilot training. They are **Ray Anderson** of Merritt Island, Fla., and **Patric Schultz**, from Berlin, Germany.

More information on the details of these benefits is available at www.gibill.va.gov.

Bristow Academy is internationally recognized as a leader in the specialized area of helicopter flight training. Both institutions anticipate growth in this program, which will offer students a four-year university degree and specialized helicopter pilot ratings as a commercial and instrument helicopter pilot. Training is available for all collegiate students regardless of veteran eligibility.



Rising senior Ben Compton snorkels with sea lions on the rugged coast of uninhabited Santa Fe Island.

Undersea in the Galapagos Islands

Professor **Mark Bush**'s summer field program and Galapagos student study trip took 20 students—primarily undergraduates—to the islands for 10 days in May.

They visited six islands—three uninhabited—traveling by speedboat. The group climbed Isabela Island's active volcano Sierra Negra, the fourth largest caldera in the world; encountered wild giant tortoises on the island of Santa Cruz; explored subterranean lava tunnels; and snorkeled with marine iguanas, sea turtles, sharks and sea lions at several locations.

The group also visited the Charles Darwin Research Station where they saw the tortoise-rearing program that is helping reintroduce tortoises to islands where centuries of exploitation have reduced populations.

President Earns Statewide Honor

In the spring, President **Anthony J. Catanese** was elected chairman of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF) for a two-year term.

ICUF is a diverse association of 28 private, educational institutions. They serve more than

120,000 students at 180 sites around Florida. As chairman, Catanese will be ICUF's principal advocate in Tallahassee and Washington.

Training Air Traffic Controllers

Florida Tech is among five new colleges to join in the Federal Aviation Administration's Air Traffic Collegiate Training Initiative (AT-CTI) program and is the only school added from Florida. This is the third year the FAA has added schools to the program, bringing the number of participating institutions to 36.

The FAA AT-CTI program helps recruit candidates for terminal and en route air traffic controller positions.

No jobs are promised to students. However, from fiscal years 2005 until 2009, more than 3,000 or 41 percent of the air traffic controllers hired graduated from AT-CTI schools.



Chile's SARA-S dome with CTIO 4m and other telescopes in background. Photo: W. Keel, U. Alabama

Telescope Expands Sky Sight

Remote access to a telescope in Chile's Andes Mountains gives a select group of astronomers and their students, including those at Florida Tech, a new window to the wonders of the Southern Hemisphere's nighttime sky. Astronomers from 10 institutions have banded together through the Southeastern Association for Research in Astronomy (SARA) consortium to refurbish and automate a 24-inch telescope at Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory in Chile.

Through the Chilean telescope and a similar 36-inch telescope the group already operates at Kitt Peak in Arizona, each SARA institution can now view the night skies from both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres (even simultaneously) for about 30 days out of the year.

Continued on page 7

Library Engages Online Learners

The world isn't getting smaller—it's getting closer.

That sentiment applies to the critical job of information sharing led by the faculty and staff of the Evans Library. The library has committed extensive resources, in partnership with Online Learning, to ensure that the university's more than 3,700 online learners have excellent access to the same resources that campus students enjoy.



Cheryl Davis (above) and Ashley Romans



"Materials, information and staff expertise available through the Evans Library are critical components of the quality online education that Florida Tech provides," said **T. Dwayne McCay**,

provost and executive vice

president.

"As our online course offerings have grown over the last decade, so have

the resources that we can deliver to students through the library."

"This is an incredibly exciting time for online learning," added **Mary Bonhomme**, associate provost and dean of online learning. "Enrollments in our online learning courses continue to grow. The number of degree programs available online has reached 46. By working collaboratively with our friends in the library, we better serve the educational needs of all online learners."

Dean of Libraries **Celine Lang** agreed that partnership has been key.

"Two examples illustrate this formula for success that enables us to anticipate rather than simply react to the students' information needs," Lang said. "First, Distance Learning Librarian **Cheryl Davis** helped a humanities instructor to build a collection of images for his class, all from library holdings. Second, Cheryl has influenced the structure and content of Mastering eLearning to give each student earlier and more direct contact with librarians and with training to use library

resources. Together, we open the door soon, open it wide and keep it open, for distance learners and learners everywhere."

Davis is one of five library staffers dedicated to assisting online learners. Catalog and Electronic Resources Librarian **Ashley Romans** is another.

"The metadata cataloging expertise of Ashley gives distance learners instant access to an excess of 62,000 electronic books and documents in the library's collections," Lang said. "Each month, Ashley adds about 3,000 new electronic books and documents to the catalog. Ashley's passion for organizing the information that describes resources, at a time when standards are primitive and volatile, is evident in her smile when she discusses the challenges of her pioneering work."

Other library staff assisting online learners are **Nate Hosburgh**, document delivery; **Jon Beliveau**, electronic access; and **Laura Metz**, administrative support.

Student reaction to online resources has been overwhelmingly positive. **Laura Aviles** wrote to the library to share her positive experience.

"I just wanted to say that I like the setup for the online library. It's very clear, concise and to the point," Aviles said.

"Dedicated staff; e-books, journals and databases; and just-in-time dissolve the barriers of space and time between the library and online learners, bringing us closer," Lang added.

For more information on the resources of the Evans Library, visit <http://lib.fit.edu>.

Wes Sumner

Telescope, continued from page 6

In order of membership, SARA's members include Florida Institute of Technology, East Tennessee State University, Valdosta State University, Florida International University, Clemson University, Ball State University, Agnes Scott College, University of Alabama, Valparaiso University and Butler University.

SARA invested about \$250,000 in upgrades to make the telescope remotely accessible over the Internet.

Together, "the 30 astronomy researchers and 10 institutions that make up SARA form a virtual astronomy department that is as large as many major astronomy departments in the U.S.," said **Terry Oswalt**, SARA chairman and head of the department of physics and space sciences at Florida Tech.



CONTINUING

Styling the Modern: Fine Art Meets Fashion

Jill A. Wiltse and H. Kirk Brown III
Collection

MAY 8 – AUG. 21, 2010

Curated by Guest Curator Shanna Shelby

Featuring 41 scarves and two couture dresses created by the famed Ascher Studio.

OPENING SOON

Fabric of Life: Textiles of Latin America

SEPT. 11 – DEC. 18, 2010



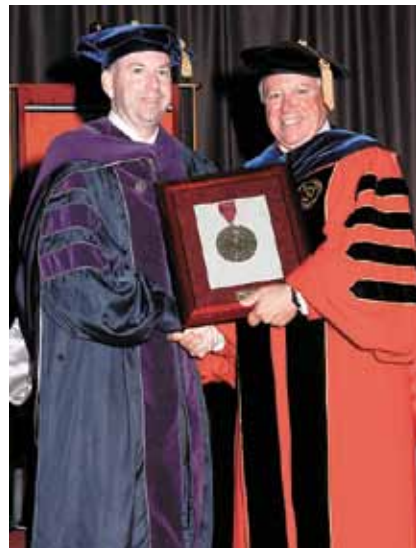
Huipil, mid-20th century, Guatemala, gift of Zipporah Schefrin

This exhibition displays complex and colorful textiles from Mexico to Brazil. Hand-painted Amazonian weavings, Panamanian molas and indigenous costumes from Ecuador and Guatemala illustrate the vibrant traditions that have survived through centuries of modernization. The exhibit includes highlights from the center's permanent collection and objects on loan from private collections.

Tues. – Fri., 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Saturday, noon – 4 p.m.

<http://textiles.fit.edu>

RUTH FUNK CENTER FOR TEXTILE ARTS



President Anthony J. Catanese presents the university's most prestigious award, the President's Medal, to Florida Senator George Lemieux.

Graduation by the Numbers

At Florida Tech's May commencement, 739 degrees were awarded. This includes 443 campus degrees as well as 189 degrees at extended graduate sites and an additional 107 degrees awarded to online graduates. Graduates came from 41 countries and 34 states plus Puerto Rico.

Associate of Arts.....	22
Bachelor of Arts	23
Bachelor of Science.....	321
Master of Arts in Teaching	1
Master of Business Administration.....	28
Professional Master of Business Administration.....	31
Master of Science.....	295
Ph.D.....	18
TOTAL.....	739

College of Aeronautics.....	38
Nathan M. Bisk College of Business.....	307
College of Engineering	226
College of Psychology and Liberal Arts.....	70
College of Science	98

TOTAL.....739

Also, 34 athletes graduated and five who earned bachelor of science degrees also became newly commissioned U.S. Army officers.

Responding to Gulf Oil Spill

Florida Tech joined 14 other institutions in the Oil Spill Academic Task Force, an organization formed to help with the response to the Gulf of Mexico oil spill. The consortium of scientists and scholars worked in collaboration with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Institute of Oceanography. **George Maul**, head of the department of marine and environmental systems, sits on the task force, which met on June 2 in St. Petersburg, Fla.

That day, Florida Tech faculty member **Stephen Wood**, with undergraduate and graduate students, left on the research vessel *Weatherbird II* from St. Petersburg on the first of four research cruises to observe the spill and collect water samples. The cruises went to Key West, into the Straits of Florida and included a stop at Dry Tortugas. Adjunct faculty member **Michael Splitt** also led students in this research.

Other universities involved include University of Miami, University of Florida, University of South Florida, Florida State University and New College of Florida.



Student Skyler Goldman deploys a drifter buoy off the stern of the RV Weatherbird II.

RESEARCH NEWS

Human Factors Expert Earns \$1 Million for Power Plant Studies

University Professor **Guy Boy**, director of the College of Engineering's Center for Interaction Design, received an award of more than \$1 million over four years from AREVA, an international energy company that offers solutions for highly reliable nuclear power generation. Under the grant, Boy will research and supervise two doctoral students on the ergonomics and human factors in the design and development of nuclear power plant control and management.



Guy Boy

Already chosen for this effort are doctoral students **Lucas Stephane** and **Kara Schmitt**. Boy came to the university in 2009 to develop a doctoral program focused on human-centered design in life-critical systems. A permanent member of the Air and Space Academy, he was recently appointed as chief scientist for Human-Centered Design at NASA, Kennedy Space Center.

Black Holes That Roam

A team of astronomy researchers, led by **Daniel Batcheldor** and **Eric Perlman** at Florida Tech, has found that the supermassive black hole (SMBH) at the center of the most massive local galaxy (M87) is not where it was expected. Their research, conducted using the Hubble Space Telescope (HST), concludes that the SMBH in M87 is displaced from the galaxy center.



Daniel Batcheldor

Also on the research team are Rochester Institute of Technology in the United States and University of Sussex in the United Kingdom.

The story attracted coverage from dozens of media outlets, including the *Christian Science Monitor* and *Scientific American*.



Eric Perlman

The most likely cause for this SMBH to be off center is a previous merger between two older, less massive SMBHs. "We also find, however, that the iconic M87 jet may have pushed the SMBH away from the galaxy center," said Batcheldor.

Football Fundraising in Full Swing

Panther football will take to the field in three years—and the university is searching for supporters.

Director of Athletic Partnerships and former Holy Trinity Head Football Coach **John Thomas** has been appointed director of football operations and is leading the fundraising drive.

“I have the highest regard for this institution and am very excited about the opportunities in front of us,” Thomas said. “We have established a long-term plan that not only brings the excitement and intangibles of college football to our campus but brings economic development to our area. Our total focus right now is to reach out and partner with people and corporations in the community who share our excitement, helping us raise the dollars needed to not only put players on the field, but provide the facilities needed to achieve success.”

Since the board of trustees endorsed the football program April 30, fundraising is the first priority. In the works:

- A Founder’s Club for the first major contributors
- A fundraising luncheon
- Determination of practice and play facilities

“Our fundraising levels will include the Founder’s Club for major gifts including those for facilities and field construction, the President’s Club for donors ranging from \$10,000 up to \$100,000, and the Grid Iron Club for all levels of support ranging from \$25 to \$9,999,” Thomas said.

“Every person, every corporation that can help us at any dollar amount is very much needed and very much appreciated. This is an exciting opportunity where Florida Tech, fans, football enthusiasts and corporations can all come together to bring college football to east central Florida,” Thomas added.

Most recently, Thomas has overseen all fundraising activities and corporate partnerships of the Florida Tech athletics program. Under Thomas’ direction, the university achieved record levels of corporate partnership and scholarship giving.

Prior to coming to Florida Tech in 2008, Thomas was the head football coach at Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy where he began that program. During his tenure, he developed the program as well as raised funds for equipment and facilities. Thomas’ program saw immediate success as he led his teams to two district championships and five playoff appearances in the school’s first seven varsity seasons. Thomas was selected four times as the Florida Athletic Coaches Association District Coach of the Year.



John Thomas (by Mike Brown, Florida Today)

Camera Gift Valued at \$100,000 Focuses Discovery

The university has received 10 high-resolution, scientific-grade cameras from the Salvador Foundation; each is valued at about \$10,000. The cameras have been distributed among nine faculty members and are being used for a variety of research projects in such areas as biological sciences, physics, engineering and computer sciences.

The SI-16M8-FF camera provides very high resolution over a wide dynamic range under controlled lighting conditions. Applications for this camera include astronomy, microscopy, semiconductor inspection, machine vision, medical imaging and laser beam profiling.

For example, Florida Tech lightning researchers can use the camera to observe sporadic atmospheric occurrences, such as meteors and transient luminous events. The lightning group currently maintains an

observation station for such phenomena on campus. This effort will benefit from the high spatial resolution images provided by SI-16M8-FF camera.

Edward L. Principe, university research professor in the department of physics and space sciences, helped obtain the gift.

The Salvador Foundation, in Colorado Springs, Colo., provides grants to churches and organizations in the United States and Latin America. The foundation is a Christian charitable foundation established in 2004 as a private 501(c)(3) organization.

\$670,000 Gift Funds Flight Training Devices

Aviation students will soon be “flying high” inside new, state-of-the-art flight simulation equipment. The Emil Buehler Perpetual Trust is granting the university \$670,000 to fund Seminole Level 5 Flight Training Devices. Manufactured by Frasca International Inc. in Urbana, Ill., a simulator allows safe, fuel efficient training in all weather conditions, 24 hours a day.

“Thanks to the Emil Buehler Perpetual Trust, our College of Aeronautics students will enjoy the benefits of advanced and efficient flight training equipment in the Emil Buehler Center for Aviation Training and Research,” said President **Anthony J. Catanese**. “This important gift only raises Florida Tech’s profile in the aviation education community.”

The university is continuing to add equipment and programs that are elevating its flight training reputation on an international scale, according to **Winston Scott**, dean of the College of Aeronautics and former astronaut.

“These two new flight training devices will be welcomed assets to our evolving educational offerings at the Buehler Center,” Scott said. “Equipment of this type is a tremendous educational resource for a number of reasons—particularly known for enhancing the hands-on flight training experience and improving safety outcomes.”

The gift to fund the flight training devices is the second major donation from The Buehler Perpetual Trust to Florida Tech—the first helped fund The Emil Buehler Center for Aviation Training and Research, located at Melbourne International Airport.

“Emil Buehler was a leader in providing unique educational opportunities and, in keeping with his interest, the trustees of the Emil Buehler Trust felt that funding advanced flight training devices at Florida Tech is an opportunity for the trust to again perpetuate Emil’s mission,” said George Weaver, trustee of The Emil Buehler Perpetual Trust.

The Emil Buehler Center for Aviation Training and Research at The Melbourne International Airport opened in February 2009. Construction of the 12,240-square-foot facility began in 2008 following a \$1.5 million gift from The Emil Buehler Perpetual Trust of Paramus, N.J. The center, valued at \$5.1 million, consists of a main building and 17,600-square-foot hangar and is located on eight acres at the airport. It is the headquarters of F.I.T. Aviation and all Florida Tech flight operations.



Remembering Florida Tech ...

Founded at the dawn of the space race 51 years ago, Florida Tech is known for its research expertise and is the only independent, technological university in the Southeast. With more than 8,000 students enrolled on the main campus, extended campuses and online, Florida Tech has been named a Barron's Guide "Best Buy" in College Education, listed among America's best colleges in U.S. News & World Report and ranked in 2010 as one of the nation's top 17 engineering technical institutes by the Fiske Guide to Colleges.

FIVE EASY WAYS YOU CAN HELP FLORIDA TECH GROW AND PROSPER

Help Us Recruit New Students

Help Florida Tech identify recruiting opportunities and refer potential students. Don't forget to use your Alumni Endorsement Grant privilege to award \$1,000 annually for up to four years to any students you nominate (any major). Alumni Endorsement Grant forms are available at www.fit.edu/alumni.

Help Us Keep Our Curriculum Relevant and Current

Recommend course updates, new courses or new academic programs based on industry trends and needs. Identify potential faculty members and/or potential donors for lab equipment or instructional materials.

Identify Key Contacts

Identify key industry contacts, potential board of advisers members, internship/co-op/career opportunities, fundraising prospects or other opportunities to partner with industry.

Contribute to the Florida Tech Fund

Your gift, whether \$100 or \$1,000, will help fund lab equipment, recruitment, curriculum, faculty, research and development projects throughout the university. Make your gift today and ensure Florida Tech's continued success.

Stay Connected

Keep in touch with your alumni association and participate in or help organize alumni activities and gatherings in your area or on campus. Additional information is always available online at www.fit.edu.



Our donors know that sound investments yield positive results.

That's why, year after year, they give to Florida Tech.

Join our team of smart investors and give to your alma mater today.

*the Florida Tech fund
an asset for all*

Contact Rosalind Weiss, Director of Annual Giving, at rweiss@fit.edu or (321) 674-6849 for more information.



from the FTAA President

From the desk of Alan Prestwood '73, '80

This summer was a time of change for the alumni association with the retirement of **Ken Droscher** from Florida Tech after 10 years of service. Ken played a pivotal role in the development of not only the alumni association, as its executive director, but also in Advancement where he served as associate vice president. Ken loved Florida Tech and it showed through his passion for his work and his dedication to our alumni. You can read more about Ken's great legacy and his many accomplishments on page 18. Although all of us who worked with Ken will miss him greatly, we are pleased that he will now have time to enjoy his grandchildren out west in Arizona.

As we move forward, we are very fortunate to have someone who shares Ken's passion for Florida Tech taking the helm. **Bino Campanini** '90, '92 M.B.A., is a former captain of our NCAA II National Championship soccer team, a member of the Florida Tech Sports Hall of Fame and a recipient of the Alumni Achievement Award. He is a former member of the FTAA board of directors (serving nine years), the board of overseers of the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business and the board of trustees. His

24-year involvement with Florida Tech places him in a unique position to help the alumni association continue to connect with and serve our alumni.

The future of Florida Tech continues to look bright and our campus continues to grow with the upcoming opening of a new food service facility, parking garage and swimming pool on the south campus. As our campus grows, so does our alumni community—with 700 new graduates joining our ranks this year. We are now over 40,000 strong and growing. I hope everyone had a great summer and that many of you will consider visiting your alma mater this fall for Homecoming. In addition, make sure you become a fan of the Alumni Association Facebook page and that you stay connected with Florida Tech. Visit facebook.com and type in Florida Institute of Technology Alumni Association. *Ad Astra Per Scientiam!*

Alumna Spark: Weyni Clacken Nazon '01

Weyni (Clacken) Nazon came from the tiny rural town of Southfield, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, and stands just 5 feet, 4 inches tall. But there is nothing little about her enthusiasm, energy or heart. Just 30, she's climbed the corporate ladder to a vice presidency at Goldman Sachs in Jersey City, N.J., but makes time to give back to her community and alma mater.

When Nazon graduated from Florida Tech with a computer engineering degree and 3.94 GPA in less than four years, she left her imprint on many people and organizations.

Besides the Caribbean Students Association (CSA), she was on the board of the National Society of Black Engineers and Tau Beta Pi. On the CSA board, Nazon helped foster relationships with a nearby elementary school. In Tau Beta Pi, she chaired a special committee under the guidance of Professor **Ed Kalajian**, which re-launched the annual engineer's week.

Nazon began at Goldman Sachs after graduation. While there, she completed her master's degree in electrical engineering at Columbia University. She currently works in Network Management Architecture, where as the technical lead, she assesses and drives implementation for reliable, efficient and scalable solutions. In 2009 she was promoted to vice president in the Technology Division.

As part of her firm's community involvement, she visits local schools to discuss the financial markets and how to make the most of technology. Nazon sits on the board of the firm's Technology Black Network and, after work hours, she mentors 14-year-old Quoshonah through Big Brothers/Big Sisters. But she never forgets Florida Tech.

As an alumna, Nazon led the charge to start a CSA alumni fund that now provides a \$1,000

annual scholarship. She works to augment the fund's endowment and to build the Caribbean Alumni database to facilitate jobs and networking. She returns to campus at least once a year for homecoming and continues to mentor students.

"My experience at Florida Tech was really wonderful. If I'm able to help others make the most of their college life, then I want to do that," said Nazon.

The 2009–2010 academic year was Nazon's first year on the alumni association board.

"She gets things done," said **Bino Campanini**, executive director of the alumni association. "Weyni is a great asset for us."

Married in July to Nedgy Nazon, she is now Weyni Nazon. Congratulations, Weyni!



Weyni (Clacken) Nazon

Karen Rhine



On The Road

Alumni Receptions Reconnect Old Friends and Make New Ones

NEW YORK ALUMNI PROFILE (PHOTO 3)

Ray Paprocky '90 looked forward to seeing Bino Campanini '90, '92 M.B.A., again at the alumni reception in New York City. In Campanini's new job, the former varsity soccer star will be evident all over the country at alumni events.

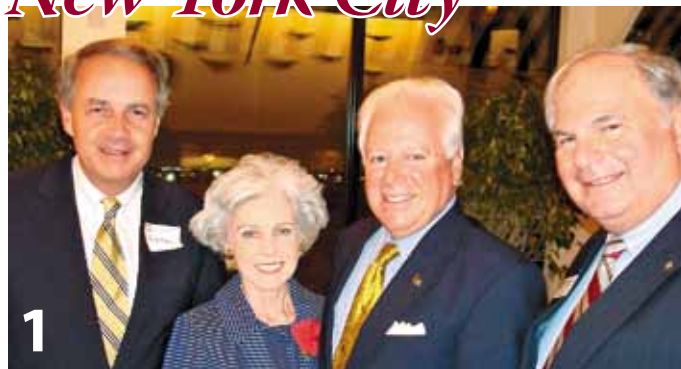
Although it was Paprocky's first alumni reception, he's been back to campus "at least 10 times" since graduation and hopes to make it for Homecoming 2010. He'll be celebrating 20 years as an alumnus.

A Nathan M. Bisk College of Business graduate with a degree in finance, Paprocky works for the biotech pharmaceutical company Biogen Idec from its New York location. As area business manager, he sells medications for multiple sclerosis.

Busy with his work and family—wife of 13 years Christine and children Nicole, 7, and Jessica, 4—he still thinks about his college days.

"I had a great experience," he said. "First, I got a very good education and second, I met three of my best friends there and we still stay in contact." He also played basketball and was on Florida Tech NCAA Division II tournament teams in 1989 and 1990.

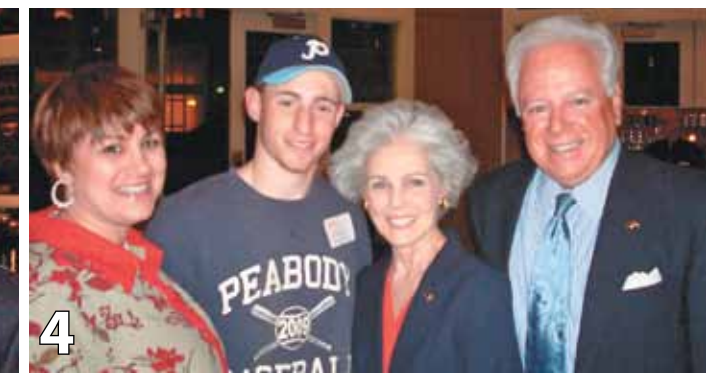
New York City



New York area alumni, prospective students and guests were treated to an expansive view of the East River at the reception held recently at the Water Club. The elegant restaurant and meeting facility is atop a renovated barge on Manhattan's East Side.

1) At left, Bob Klein, Northrop Grumman, visits with Sara and President Anthony J. Catanese and Florida Tech Trustee Erik Joh. **2)** A warm greeting here from Bino Campanini '90, '92 M.B.A., alumni association executive director, to Robert Kovner '03, left, and Robert Azzollini '03, right. **3)** Campanini, left, reconnects with friends Ray Paprocky '90 and Fab Barasti '89. **4)** Timothy Coulter '07, left, and Kyle Craig '06 explore networking opportunities among alumni and guests.

Boston



Greater Boston area alumni enjoyed a panoramic view of historic Boston Harbor when the On The Road team met in the Boston Harbor Hotel Pavilion.

1) President Catanese and Bino Campanini (back row) join Andrew Rhyne '02 M.S., '06 Ph.D., Jennifer Wright '93, John Chappell '70, Bernard Fuchs '70, and Douglas Schuler '72, '91 M.S. **2)** Thomas Meninno '89 and guest Kristin Fitzpatrick enjoy an evening out. **3)** Peter Velikin '97 and Darius Sidebotham '97 catch up. **4)** President and Sara Catanese, right, welcome a prospective student-athlete and his mother, who arrived straight from his baseball game.



BOSTON ALUMNI PROFILE (PHOTO 3)

When an alumni reception is scheduled in the Boston area, **Peter Velikin '97** always tries to make it. He has good memories of earning his Florida Tech degree in electrical engineering and forged long-standing friendships.

"I had a really good time at Florida Tech," he said. But his fondest memories are probably from being a part of the rowing team.

Velikin, who came to Florida Tech from Bulgaria on a Presidential Academic Scholarship, immediately joined the crew team. His team won at Dad Vail in 1996 and his boat was selected to race at the Henley Regatta in England—a rare honor.

"I was up at five every morning for practice and had the chance to travel all over the U.S. I am grateful to coach **Casey Baker** for the opportunity because crew had a defining role for building the strength of my character," said Velikin, who was drawn to Boston, in part, for the chance to row on the Charles River. And he does, several times a week.

Velikin is now vice president of marketing for Zmags, a digital publishing software company. He lives near the river in downtown Boston, with wife Albina and 3-year-old son Christo.



5) Chapter Representative Bernie Fuchs '70 and College of Aeronautics alumnus Duane Stinchfield '75 welcome guests. **6)** Chapter Representative John Chappell '70 engages students with information about the campus and programs.

Dad Vail



1



2



3



4



5

1) Crystal Bourne gets a hug from Bino Campanini. 2) Six receive diplomas in mini-commencement at Dad Vail. They are, from left: Becky Werle, Ashley Sicard, Julie Mabry, Travis Schramek, Kevin Moore and Amanda Deveaux. Werle and Sicard graduated cum laude. 3) Bill Jurgens, left, helps President Catanese hold his award plaque. The Dad Vail President's Award, which features a medal and two oars, was earned by the president for his support of rowing and strong commitment to the regatta's principles. 4) Saying "cheese" beside Philadelphia's Schuylkill River, from left, are: John Thomas, new football operations director; Crystal Bourne; Dennis Bourne '79; Craig McKay '81; and Cliff Bragdon, vice president, Office of Strategic Initiatives. 5) President Catanese's twin grandsons, Anthony and Robert, cut down on the glare of their early exposure to the excitement of the Dad Vail Regatta.

BLUSTERY DAYS OF REUNION AND ROWING

About 100 alumni, friends, crew members and their families enjoyed a reception at Boathouse Row's Vesper House on the Schuylkill River at the annual Dad Vail Regatta. Florida Tech had its own tent during the races, May 7-8, keeping the rowers' fans out of the wind and dust, and in fellowship.

Florida Tech's women's varsity boats placed fourth and sixth in the finals. The varsity four claimed fourth in the final, crossing the finish line at 8:44.71; the varsity eight notched sixth place, powering through the waves and past the buoys at 7:36.20.

Following two solid efforts in their heat and semifinal, the Panthers' men's varsity eight earned a third-place medal in the final, stopping the clock at 6:38.94.

Pakistan



1



2

Director of Advancement Services **Ali Faisal** traveled to Pakistan recently to participate in receptions in Islamabad and Karachi organized by the United States Educational Foundation in Pakistan (USEFP). The USEFP was founded in 1950 to support education and cultural exchange between the United States and Pakistan, and is one of 51 Department of State Fulbright Programs worldwide.

1) Ali Faisal, left, outlines Florida Tech programs for prospective students with the aid of Hadi Garib '05. 2) From left, Zeeshan Usmani '06 M.S., '09 Ph.D., and Faisal join members of the USEFP staff and prospective students. Usmani is an assistant professor of computer science at GIK University in Pakistan.

Naples



1



2

Florida west coast alumni were hosted by Bill and Barbara Roy in Naples at their private country club, the Moorings. 1) Event hosts Bill Roy '70 M.S. and Barbara Roy are flanked here by Beverly Sanders, assistant vice president of development, and Bino Campanini. 2) Bino Campanini discusses Florida Tech happenings with Michael Kirby '81.

You're Invited

Save the Date for these Upcoming Alumni Receptions

Sept. 16: **Tampa, FL** | Sept. 23: **Ft. Lauderdale, FL**

Sept. 24: **Miami, FL** | Nov. TBD: **Vero Beach, FL**

Contact Melissa Klos for details: mklos@fit.edu

In 2011, we're planning Alumni Receptions in these locations:

- Washington, D.C. • Seattle, WA
- San Francisco, CA • Orlando, FL
- Atlanta, GA • Boston, MA • New York, NY
- Dad Vail Regatta, Philadelphia, PA
- Phoenix, AZ

Ken Droscher: Beloved Ambassador Bids Adieu

When **Ken Droscher** arrived at Florida Tech July 10, 2000, he found a very different place than he retired from this summer. In those 10 years, he made a lasting impact and in the process earned the love and respect of just about everyone he came in contact with. Although he retired with the title associate vice president for advancement, he found the most joy as executive director of the alumni association.

Almost from the moment he arrived on campus, it became apparent he did not think of his work as a job. It was his mission. His sincere interest in everything made him love everything about Florida Tech. He loved its history and the future he perceived for it. Most of all he loved the people with whom he came in contact. He told them so, too. "I love you," he would tell them. And they loved him back.

Ken seemed to see the potential in taking action where others did not. The Link Trainer, discovered in a closet, was restored and is now on display. The Chao Tsu-Yu clock in front of the Keuper Building runs again. V.I.P. bus trips took alumni who once worked at Cape Kennedy for reunion visits. The forgotten Vanguard first stage rocket engine is now proudly displayed. Carillon bells toll in the Denius Student Center. Statues of our panther mascot and our founding president enhance our campus thanks largely to Ken's vision and hard work.

No alma mater? No problem. He and his talented wife took care of that. He assured that a slick alumni magazine could be

published by selling advertising for it. Florida Tech license plates advertise our school as they add to the student scholarship fund. The emeriti organization was founded in 2000, the

"His energy is contagious. The more he interacts with people, the better he is. He has an unlimited capacity for love."

—Jim Thomas, vice chairman, board of trustees

same year our university flag was designed and created. Additionally, Ken realized the time to acquire historical information was quickly passing. **Melanie Keuper**, daughter of our founding president, helped him acquire archival pieces. And **Bob Taylor** and **Amanda Burns** plan to continue to tape audio and video interviews of university pioneers, a project they began at Ken's request.

A wonderful listener, Ken left his background unspoken. He grew up near Olympia, Wash., and attended Southern Oregon University, majoring in health and physical education. He then went on for an M.S. in physiology at the University of Oregon. His first job was teaching at the University of Arizona. Two weeks after he received tenure, he was offered a salary increase of 75 percent to become the university ticket manager. He took the job.

Ken says he learned the business end of athletics there and



Ken and Mary Droscher admire a replica of the Panther Plaza statue presented as a retirement gift.

feels the position helped him learn how to deal with people. He spent four years dealing with problems like finding tickets to sold-out events for demanding big shots, handling overbooked shows and disguising under-filled houses. Eventually, he served as associate athletic director for Arizona before being named athletic director at the University of California at Santa Barbara. At the time, he was the youngest athletic director of an NCAA Division I-A school

"I hate to lose that guy. He's wonderful. He's got a halo around him. The man upstairs is saving a special place for him."

—Hank Hughes, a groundskeeper since 1969

The couple sought a new challenge when they came to Florida Tech ... and the rest is history.

Joan Bixby

2010 Campaign to Sustain!

Help your Alumni Association **grow its membership** and you will receive this eco-friendly backpack emblazoned with the university seal.



100% recycled PET and poly canvas eco-friendly drawstring bag (15" x 18.75" x 2.5")
Retail Value \$25

\$50 INDIVIDUAL SUSTAINING MEMBER ANNUAL DUES
\$85 JOINT SUSTAINING MEMBER ANNUAL DUES

JOIN ONLINE:
www.fit.edu/alumni/membership

JOIN BY PHONE:
Call (321) 674-7198

MAIL A CHECK:
Florida Tech Alumni Association
150 W. University Blvd.
Melbourne, FL 32901-6975

For a list of membership benefits
www.fit.edu/alumni/services

HELP SUSTAIN THE WORK OF YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Career Networking | Reunions | Receptions | Scholarships
Homecoming | Chapter Development

If you join, or renew your membership, prior to Dec. 31, 2010, your name will be entered in a drawing for a **complimentary weekend on the beach** at one of our local partner hotels.

The first 100 members will receive a **Florida Tech mousepad**.



Florida Institute of Technology

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

WHEN YOU APPLY FOR YOUR DREAM JOB, YOU NEED TO BE PREPARED TO GET IT >>

First Stop Florida Tech Next Stop MTV



Jenny McCoy earned her bachelor's in communication in 2006. Today, she is social media manager for MTV News in New York City.

Read on as Jenny shares her love of social media, her love affair with the bright lights of the big city and the benefits of a friendly push on the journey to living the dream.

I'll tell you from personal experience that Alka-Seltzer helps the news go down.

On April 26, I e-mailed my application to MTV News.

On May 26, I began work in Times Square.

That's your CliffsNotes, here's the full story.

LET'S START WITH MY FIRST TRIP TO NYC. >>

The first time I met the iconic buildings I now call home was as a member of the Florida Tech Volleyball team. I remember seeing “Mama Mia” on Broadway, and while the show was great, I was most impacted by the realization that everyone on that stage was living their dream. They said, “I want to be on Broadway,” when they were six years old and they actually did it. And to me, that was more memorable than all the ABBA tunes you can fit into a two-hour performance.

I tucked that memory away, finished my degree and took my first steps as a young professional—again, at Florida Tech. I folded envelopes for alumni events and wrote letters asking each of you for your earnest donations. But more importantly, I was taken in by some wonderful people who saw that I had a knack for writing and helped me develop it. When I decided to leave and pursue my next job in Fort Lauderdale, they—along with my friends and family—gave me a gentle push out the door.

That push was what I needed. I needed to experience the world a little more and develop my writing in a more intense setting.

On day one, my new employer told me to learn this new thing that was all the rage ... social media. So in addition to writing, I started a blog, a Twitter account and a Facebook page for my company.

Immediately, I was fascinated with this medium. It gave my company a voice. It allowed us to talk to real people. I loved it—so much so, that within a few months I decided to start my own blog <http://JenMcCoy.com>. This quickly became my nightly labor of love. I would come home from work and rather than watch a movie or drink a few beers, I would work until 2 a.m.

I grew a small audience and weeknights became weekends as I worked on new pieces, shopped them around as bait to other blogs and, in general, got to know a ton of really cool people who were in the same situation. They had aspiration, they had talent and they weren't happy in their current position.

Because of this, I feel extremely fortunate to have entered the work force during the rise of corporate acceptance of social media. The same skills I learned on the job as an entry-level

copywriter allowed me to develop my own voice, find a readership and, ultimately, land my dream job by creating a site <http://SocialJenny.com> that easily shared why I deserved to be the new social media manager at MTV News.

That's how I got here.

Now, here's a little about what I do at 1515 Broadway.

NEXT STOP NYC >>

I left Florida on a one-way flight with one bag, one suitcase and a reservation on an air mattress (of two Florida Tech alums). Band-Aid approach, baby.

The lights were big, the bags were heavy and, I'll admit, the transition was abrupt. Looking back on my first week in the city, I'd compare myself to a mixture of Eddie Murphy in “Coming to America” and Buddy the Elf. I smiled at everyone. I got excited when they said my subway stop, and I ate breakfast in front of “Good Morning America” before my first day in the office—because I showed up 1.5 hours early.

I'm basically a professional now though. I hit the door at 8:15 a.m., grab coffee at 8:20 a.m. and it only takes me a few seconds when I hit daylight at the Times Square exit to locate the bright lights and walk toward their glaze.

And then there's the office. Sway Calloway is on one side of my quarters and our interview room is on the other. As my boss put it on day five, “the curtain is up.” It's true and it's strange, but despite the visits of Ice Cube, the “Idol” finalists and several others, I'm still most fascinated with one of my side tasks—posting Kurt Loder's movie reviews.

Despite all the exciting distractions, I do have big expectations. It's my task to take an evolving online newsroom that used to live on cable and make it social. Currently, I do so by delivering our news to our Twitter followers and creating a reason for them to engage with us. In the coming weeks and months, this job will become more involved as we incorporate each of our five newsroom blogs and take our story onto Facebook. It's a fun challenge and the work is really never done—but I'm happy to be a part of such a dynamic industry and I'm thankful for the opportunity. In the same vein, I'm thankful for the people who helped me get here.

I feel strongly that no matter where you start and where you end, you don't get there with one push. For that reason, I'm thankful for every push along the way—from my parents showing up to every game I've ever played in, to my big brother helping me get my start in Fort Lauderdale, to my Florida Tech family who took me through college and into my first job. Your pushes helped me get here, and I'm loving every minute of it.

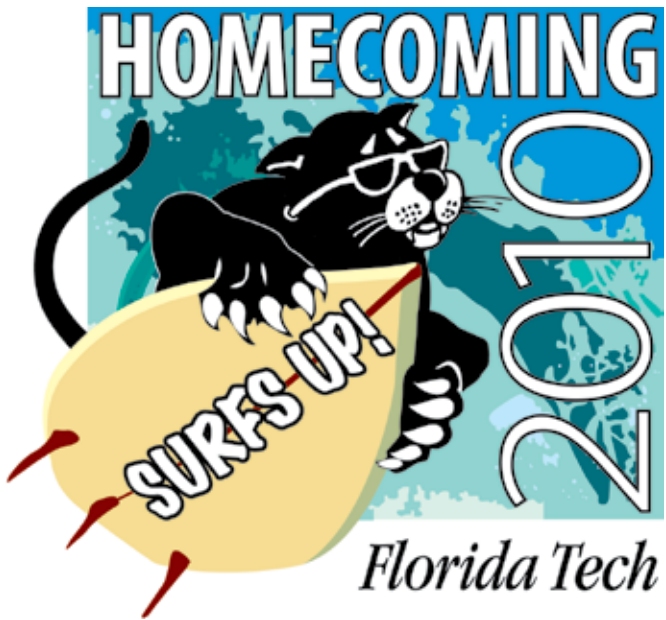
Now book your flights and come visit me already!

Jenny McCoy



Far left: Jenny McCoy, second from right, on her first trip to New York City with the Florida Tech volleyball team.

Left: Jenny McCoy rides a cable car over the Hudson River with Derek Steinle, '06 aviation management, right, and another friend.



Visit <http://homecoming.fit.edu> to register online or contact the Office of Alumni Affairs.

Want to add an activity?

If you would like an activity added, please contact:

Rodney Bowers, Associate Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
rbowers@fit.edu | (321) 674-8080

Marjorie Beckett, Assistant Director for Alumni Affairs
mbeckett@fit.edu | (321) 674-7642

Tentative Schedule of Events

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3

All Day Office Decorating Contest
7 p.m. Women's Basketball Exhibition Game—Clemente Center

THURSDAY, NOV. 4

7-9 p.m. Talent/Lip Sync Show—Panthereum
10 p.m.-2 a.m. Homecoming Dance—Clemente Center

FRIDAY, NOV. 5

9 a.m.-noon Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting—All Faiths Center
4-7 p.m. Paw Wow—Southgate Field
7 p.m. Volleyball Match (vs Tampa)—Clemente Center
7-8 p.m. Reunion Receptions—Locations TBA
7:30-9:30 p.m. Florida Tech Ice Hockey—Space Coast Ice Plex, Rockledge College Players Fall Production—Gleason Performing Arts Center
8-10 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 6

8-10 a.m. ASME Yarosh Wiles Scholarship 5K Race
11 a.m.-noon Homecoming Parade
Noon-1 p.m. Homecoming and Reunion Barbecue—Panther Plaza and Panthereum
2-4 p.m. An Afternoon of Entertainment—Panther Plaza and Panthereum
7:30-9:30 p.m.** Alumni Association Banquet—TBA
9-11 p.m. Homecoming Concert—Southgate Field
**Payment required Schedule subject to change.

For complete information by area, please contact:

College of Aeronautics/FITSA—Ryan Tenny: (321) 674-7369 or rtenny@fit.edu

Alumni Affairs—Hazel Rosskamp: (321) 674-7190 or hrosskam@fit.edu

Student Affairs—Judy Thompson: (321) 674-8080 or thompson@fit.edu

HOMECOMING 2010 REGISTRATION FORM or REGISTER ONLINE <http://homecoming.fit.edu>

To register by credit card or check (payable to Florida Tech Alumni Association), fill out this form and send to: Florida Institute of Technology, Office of Alumni Affairs, 150 West University Boulevard, Melbourne, FL 32901-6975

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/ZIP _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

Saturday, Nov. 6

Alumni Association Banquet—starts at 7:30 p.m.

Attendees _____ @ \$45 per individual before Oct. 1
\$50 per individual after Oct. 1

TOTAL AMOUNT REMITTED \$ _____

Choice of entrée: BEEF, SALMON or VEGETARIAN Please indicate entrée selection for each member of your party

Name of guest _____ Beef Salmon Veg • Name of guest _____ Beef Salmon Veg
Name of guest _____ Beef Salmon Veg • Name of guest _____ Beef Salmon Veg

Check enclosed —or— Credit Card: Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Cardholder Name _____

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____ CV# _____

Cardholder Signature _____



A reporter interviews Sebastian Moreno before his semifinal heat.



The Surf Team soaks up the California rays.

Surfing Panthers— First in Florida, 8th in Nation

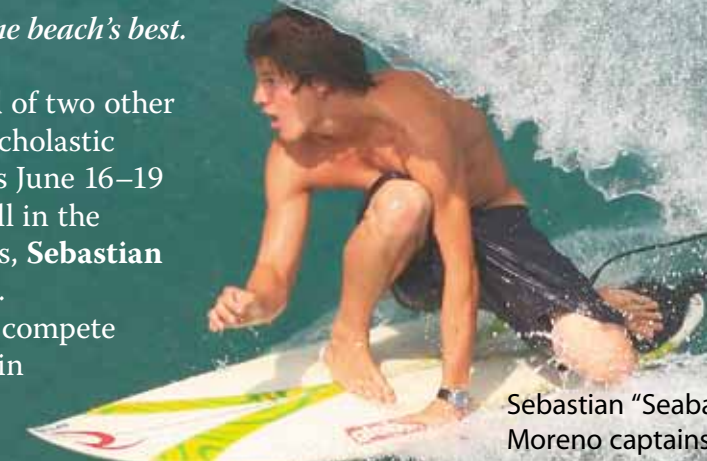
Whoever said cats don't take to water never met Florida Tech's Surf Team. These Panthers have made the ocean their personal playground, clawing their way to the top of the beach's best.

The university's fledgling surf squad remained ahead of two other Florida collegiate teams competing in the National Scholastic Surfing Association (NSSA) National Championships June 16-19 in Dana Point, Calif. The team finished eighth overall in the competition—but first in Florida. Two team members, **Sebastian Moreno** and **Justin Ellingham**, made the semifinals.

"It was so exciting to qualify for nationals and to compete there," said team captain Moreno, a senior majoring in international business. "This was our first year as a team, and we're just very proud of what we've achieved." The NSSA is the highest profile amateur competitive surfing association in the United States.

Florida Tech qualified for the national contest after placing second only to the University of North Carolina Wilmington in the NSSA East Coast Championships in April. Other team members who competed in California were **Alex Ferrencz**, **Frankie Brown**, **Katie Spagnolo**, **Pat Brendan**, **Pat Reily** and **Ellis White**. Supporting the team were **James Woerner**, **Kiki Roettger** and **Samuel Breit**.

The national competition fielded 16 teams, including four from the East Coast of the United States. The two other Florida teams participating represented Florida Atlantic University and the University of Central Florida. The University of California-Santa Barbara team earned the first-place crown for the 12th time.



Sebastian "Seabass" Moreno captains the Panther surf squad.

Wes Summer

Ready for the Real World

*It's at the top of every human resources manager's wish list:
Recent graduates who are "job-ready."*

And Florida Tech grads are just that—ready to thrive in today's dynamic workplaces. In addition to a top-notch theoretical education, engineering, science and math students also get invaluable hands-on experience through the senior design and senior research programs.

Starting with their freshman year, we explain to the students that this project will be the highlight of their experience here," said **Hamid Rassoul**, associate dean of the College of Science. "It will be a crucial part of their résumé."

Rassoul uses an old Chinese proverb to underscore the value of the program. "Tell me, and I forget. Show me, and I may remember. Involve me, and I'll understand."

Each April, approximately 40 College of Science teams and 95 College of Engineering teams display their projects during the Northrop Grumman Engineering and Science Student Design Showcase at the Clemente Center. The diversity of the projects mirrors the broad range of Florida Tech disciplines.

Math and science projects may address space physics, such as the erosion

of lunar soil when landing rockets on the moon; biology, examining coral growth; or science and math education, evaluating different teaching methods.

Engineering projects include advanced robotics, rockets, hybrid fuel cars, state-of-the-art aerospace designs and computer programs. Each of these projects not only strengthens the students' engineering knowledge, but also teaches critical job skills, including teamwork, project management, budgeting, scheduling, purchasing, design fabrication, testing and reporting, said **Stephanie Hopper**, director of laboratories for the College of Engineering.

"The real successes come when we see students working across disciplines and across cultural differences to create a winning design," said Hopper. "Several of these projects continue on at the graduate level, and many are published in scientific journals."

One of this year's most recognized engineering projects was the Blended Wing Body Plane, created by a team of aerospace students. The project was a continuation of an effort the students began as a toy-sized plane more than two years ago, which they redesigned and scaled up to a 16-foot wing-span plane for their senior project.

The plane has potential applications as a cargo plane, possibly for delivering emergency supplies or time-sensitive information, said team leader **Sharif Abdel-Magid**. "It's 30 percent more efficient and can carry more than your conventional airplane; this is a win-win situation for this design, and the possibilities are endless. The plane as we know it has been redesigned."

The BWB team exemplifies the strength of an international team. Members hailed from the northeast and southeast United States, as well as Russia and Belgium. Each participant played an important role in the project's success, said Abdel.

Students completing senior research projects in the College of Science experience a different kind of teamwork, said Rassoul. "Often, our projects are multi-phased, where one student works for a year or so, then another student picks up where the previous student left off. It's more of a sequential team. In the end, the legacy often becomes a published paper."

Cristina Mazzone, a biology senior, attests to the success of the program. Her project in the

interdisciplinary field of biomath was one of nine projects nationwide selected to present at a conference hosted by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in Washington, D.C.

Initiated by team members **Adam Hernandez** and **Erin Zingarelli**, the project used mathematical models and computer simulations to evaluate the starfish embryology.

"Being able to understand this signaling pathway and the role of each molecule in the pathway during fertilization and maturation could lead to the development of better contraceptives and could help those with infertility issues," Mazzone said. The interdisciplinary approach, using mathematics to model a biological process, might provide scientists with new insight on the complex reproductive processes of all species. In addition to NAS recognition, Mazzone's project earned high praise from attendees at this year's showcase—including President **Anthony J. Catanese**.

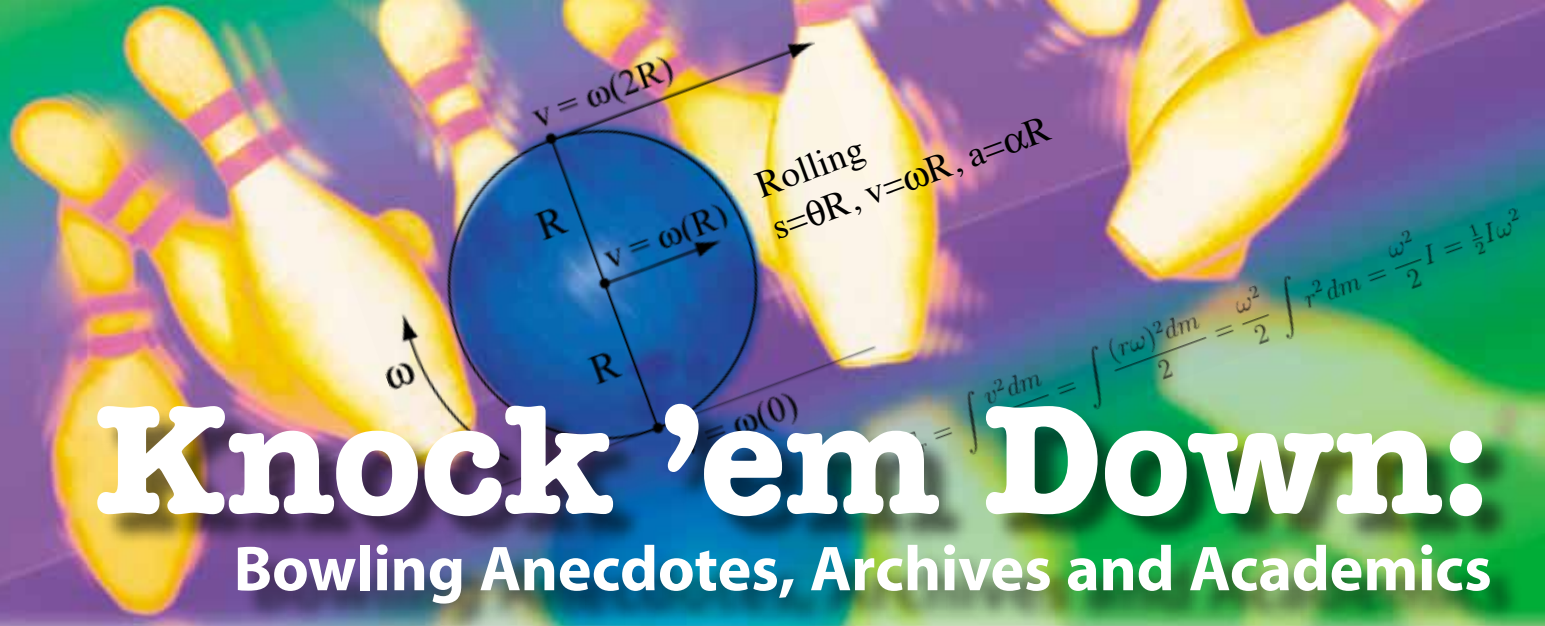
After walking the showcase aisles and reviewing dozens of projects personally, Catanese summed up the program's focus as he addressed the audience, "You don't come to Florida Tech to read about math, science and engineering—you come here to do it."

Bob Klein, vice president of engineering at Northrop Grumman, echoed the sentiments heard from many human resources executives. He was part of a nine-person team that evaluated the projects during the annual showcase.

"The Northrop Grumman judges and I were really impressed with the student projects," he said. "Not only did they design them, but they built them and tested them and offered very creative solutions. We are happy to partner with Florida Tech and look forward to seeing the students' creative solutions in the future."

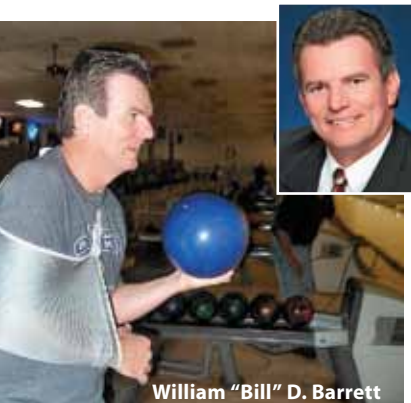
Gretchen Sauerman





Knock 'em Down: Bowling Anecdotes, Archives and Academics

In celebration of **National Bowling Week**—July 31–Aug. 7—Florida Tech TODAY decided to pay homage to this historic pastime, and to our surprise, we scored a "turkey"—you provided fun facts, we discovered a bit of Florida Tech history and we gained an academic lesson in the physics of bowling.



William "Bill" D. Barrett

270 **Strike!**

Responding to our call for submissions, bowling alumni from near and far shared their tales from the lanes. Here are a few highlights:

William "Bill" D. Barrett '91 M.S. electrical engineering

Barrett has bowled in leagues from Florida to Oregon, Nevada to California and switched from bowling right-handed to bowling left-handed following a rotator cuff injury. His highest score (right-handed) was 268. "In that game, I started with seven strikes in a row. I also had an open," he says.

What I love about bowling:

Since bowling is a game based on the laws of physics, I get to apply my engineering education to improve my game. If I perform the correct action, I will get the desired reaction.

I love the head-to-head competition on league night.

I love the camaraderie and the teamwork.

I love the fact that my personal contribution has a large effect on the outcome.

I absolutely love the pressure of being the anchor bowler in the tenth frame when we are 30 pins behind, and I need to strike out.

Andy Sokol '03 aerospace engineering, '09 M.S. space systems

Sokol was a league bowler for years prior to enrolling at Florida Tech. When he discovered the university didn't have an active bowling club, he jumped at the opportunity to start one. The group bowled once a week at Brunswick

Brevard Bowling Center on Dairy Road (now Shore Lanes Palm Bay).

"Bowling Club was very small the first year—hanging on for dear life with the bare minimum, only about 12 regulars," Sokol recalls. "Thankfully, we secured [university] funding the following year, and our numbers exploded.

Who doesn't love cheap bowling? By my graduation

in 2003, we had become one of the largest—and best-funded—clubs on campus, with over 40 active members."

Unfortunately, Bowling Club dissolved shortly after Sokol graduated.

"I can only hope another inspired student resurrects it," he says. "Bowling Club was one of Florida Tech's few clubs that was truly

Top 10 reasons that real bowling is better than Wii:

10. Have you seen the type of people who hang out in bowling alleys? I don't want them playing with my Wii console.
9. That special bowling alley smell of wood oil, shoe disinfectant spray and greasy food.
8. Those little Wii controllers don't slide down the lane very well.
7. You get to rent shoes!
6. Wii keeps track of my progress so it's harder to lie about my score.
5. It's all the exercise I get.
4. It's hard to fit the whole league in my living room.
3. You look kinda silly carrying around a Wii controller in a bag with your towel, wrist support, resin powder ...
2. Why bother playing Wii when my ColecoVision Bowling Challenge 3000 is the best game ever?
1. Adults have a good chance of winning against 8-year-old kids.



Kurt Winkelmann—Associate Professor, Chemistry

open to everyone—membership wasn't limited by a specific field of study, nationality, honors or gender.

270 **Double!!**

Thanks to a tip from **Kim Bozik '87** electrical engineering, we discovered a bit of forgotten Florida Tech history—the existence of bowling lanes on the ground floor of Evans Hall.

"When I got there in the 80s, the lanes were already defunct," recalls Bozik. "We really wanted to revive them in Campus Activities Board, but didn't get enough budget raised up to do so."

But 1973 Student Body President **Bill Pearce, '73** management sciences, '74 M.S. systems management, remembers the lanes in their heyday and recalls they were a popular campus hangout.

Pearce's goal as SGA president was to bring more activities to campus, offering students more things to do.

A survey of the student body identified the top two choices for campus activities as a rathskeller and a bowling alley; both initiatives brought to fruition by SGA.

"It was a laid-back thing," Pearce recalls. "After class, you could go down to the Rathskeller, have a snack, have a beer, meet friends, go over to the bowling alley, bowl a

few frames ... just unwind and relax."

As the years passed, the popularity of the Rat grew, while the popularity of the bowling lanes waned. Ultimately, by the late '70s, the last pin dropped at the Evans Hall bowling lanes.

270 **Turkey!!!**

Bowling is academic ... at least the principles of the game can be illustrated mathematically and applied to the laws of physics. **Hakeem Oluseyi**, assistant professor of physics and space sciences, compares the progress of the ball down the lane to the progress of a student from elementary to advanced physics.



You start with the basics of Newton's Laws of Motion and progress to more complicated calculations for rotational kinetic energy, collision and pin action. A bowler must optimize the energy, angle and momentum to achieve success, and the initial conditions (speed, direction, rotation, optimum angle of release), set into motion by the bowler, determine the course of the entire play. When you factor in ball composition, lane condition and biomechanics, the academic analysis of bowling can be down right mind-boggling.

Christena Callahan



Wii vs Traditional?

Our informal Facebook survey yielded the following results:



REAL BOWLING FANS

Robert Moroney III—Real bowling is fun, but I get a higher score in Wii bowling.

Bina Wagshall—Video games are not fun! In fact I find them really boring ... I prefer the real thing hands down!

Sue Haddam—Real bowling with bumpers

Kai J. Clark—Real bowling, no contest

Harrison Schott—Real because brother can't beat me in real life, in the game he's figured out the way to bowl a perfect game every time.

Other real bowling fans: **Lauren Solomon, Stephen Hujarski, Koka Abhishek, Bonnie Klein, Sparky Waters**

WII BOWLING FANS

Lora Vlahos Webb—I'm horrible at real bowling, but I kick butt on Wii bowling!

Tracy Brown—Wii bowling all the way, lol

Alayibo Semenitari—Wii 4 sure

Also: **Sarah Beverley, LaDonna Amon White**

LOVE 'EM BOTH

TaLisa Henry, Dakota Meador



Remember when?

In what years did the bowling club wear these t-shirt designs? Answers below.



(a) Front



Back



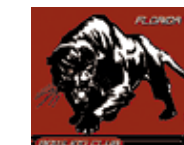
(b) Front



Back



(c) Front



Back

ANSWERS: (a) 2001–02; (b) 2002–03; (c) 2002–03

BOB AND CINDY PRATT:

For Love and Alma Mater

Florida Tech holds a special place in the hearts of Bob and Cindy Pratt.

It's where they met, fell in love and got engaged at a campus landmark they helped establish. It's where they made life-long friends and built a network of colleagues. And it was the stepping stone to career success.

The couple first met through College Players, where Cindy acted and Bob worked backstage. They were friends for several years, and both were active in numerous campus organizations before they started dating in 1996.

After graduating in 1995 with a B.S. in physical oceanography, Bob joined the alumni association and began campaigning for the panther statue. Cindy, who graduated two years later with a B.S. in biological oceanography and chemical oceanography, shared Bob's dream.

"It was something we worked together for years on and finally in 2000, we ended up getting the statue," said Bob, who also earned master's degrees in physical oceanography and engineering management.

By then, the couple had moved to Oxnard, Calif. Three years later, while back in Florida for the wedding of another pair of Florida Tech graduates, they visited campus to see the statue—where Bob had a surprise waiting for Cindy.

"When I showed her the donor plaque, it said 'Bob and Cindy Pratt' and I proposed at the statue," Bob said.

Added Cindy, "Bob had this well planned. I love the fact he had the confidence I would say yes."

Not only did Florida Tech play a key role in the Pratt's love lives, it also paved the way for successful careers.

"Amazingly enough, all of our career moves have been based off of our friends and fellow graduates from Florida Tech," said Bob, who, along with Cindy, works with and landed jobs thanks to Florida Tech alumni.

Bob joined York Telecom as a program manager and currently works for the Los Angeles-based Fortune 500 biotech firm Amgen.

"I oversee an engagement of York staff members who provide video conference network management and live audio/visual events," Bob said.

Cindy works as a hydrographic surveyor for Fugro West Inc., an international geosciences and consulting and marine study firm. Most recently, she's spent time in the office helping with project logistics, Geographic Information System mapping and report writing. Prior to that, she worked at sea mapping the seafloor looking for underwater hazards, artifacts and position levels.

"I learned a lot of skills at Florida Tech that became valuable in the real world. It provided me with a lot of the organizational skills and technical writing skills that make me better at my job," Cindy said.

Despite their busy careers, the couple still finds time for a myriad of hobbies such as guitar playing, gardening, photography, scrapbooking and watching soccer and Formula One racing.

About six years ago, they restarted the Los Angeles Chapter of the Florida Tech Alumni Association, where members meet for an annual barbecue, baseball game and wine tasting—one of their favorite West Coast pastimes.

The Pratts are grateful for their time spent at Florida Tech, especially the positive relationships they shared with the faculty and the numerous friendships they made that have lasted more than a decade.

"The professors and staff were truly interested in the lives of students. They were encouraging and supportive and made an impact on our life," Cindy said.

Added Bob, "We had a great experience at Florida Tech. It truly changed our lives and a lot of other lives as well."

Kristine Woolley

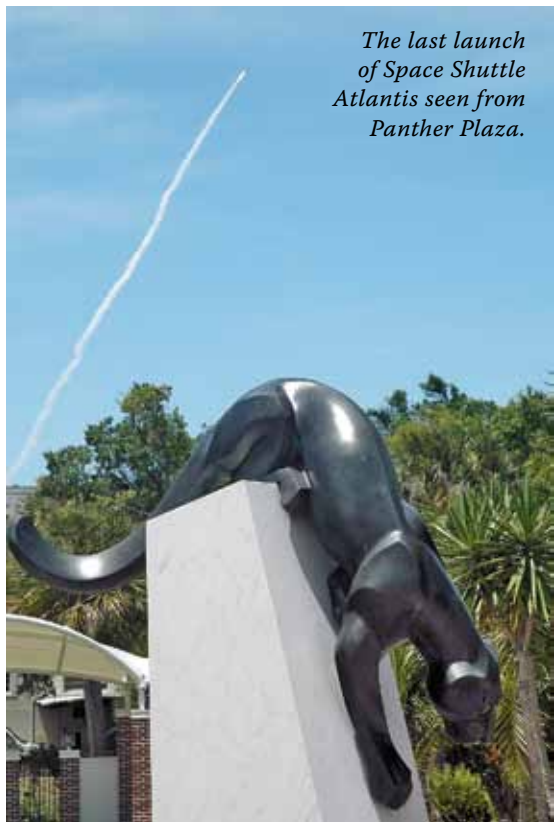
One of the first photos of Cindy and Bob Pratt taken in 1993 at the Sugarmill Apartments, three years before they started dating.



Cindy and Bob Pratt on their wedding day, Oct. 30, 2004



The last launch of Space Shuttle Atlantis seen from Panther Plaza.



On their honeymoon in Scotland, five years after their wedding



Alumni Spotlight

Tim McKernan '00 M.S. logistics management, Fort Lee Extended Studies site Army Colonel, serving in Iraq since 2009



Describe your work: McKernan is part of the effort to keep Iraq secure so that strides made in rebuilding the country can endure. As a liaison to the Iraq Security Assistance Mission, McKernan helps to equip and train Iraqi security forces in preparation for the United States withdrawal in 2011. He also works to educate the Iraqi government on what's needed to ensure future security cooperation between the U.S. and Iraq.

Fast fact: This is McKernan's second deployment to Iraq and fifth mission in the Middle East. He has also served in Afghanistan and twice in Kuwait. On his last trip to Iraq, his job was to provide escorts for convoys during the worst of the violence. "I drove three million miles on 1,300 missions, putting soldiers' lives on the line. Every one of those soldiers came back."

Notable achievement: His biggest challenge today, he said, is ensuring security so the government can run effectively and the progress thus far can be maintained. "You don't get too many chances to be part of history," said McKernan. "We're making a difference here. Anytime you can better your world, you've got to get out there and do that."

Yvonne Jackson '98 M.S. management, concentration in human resource management, Redstone Arsenal Extended Studies site Deputy Program Executive Officer, Combat and Mission Support; Department of the Air Force



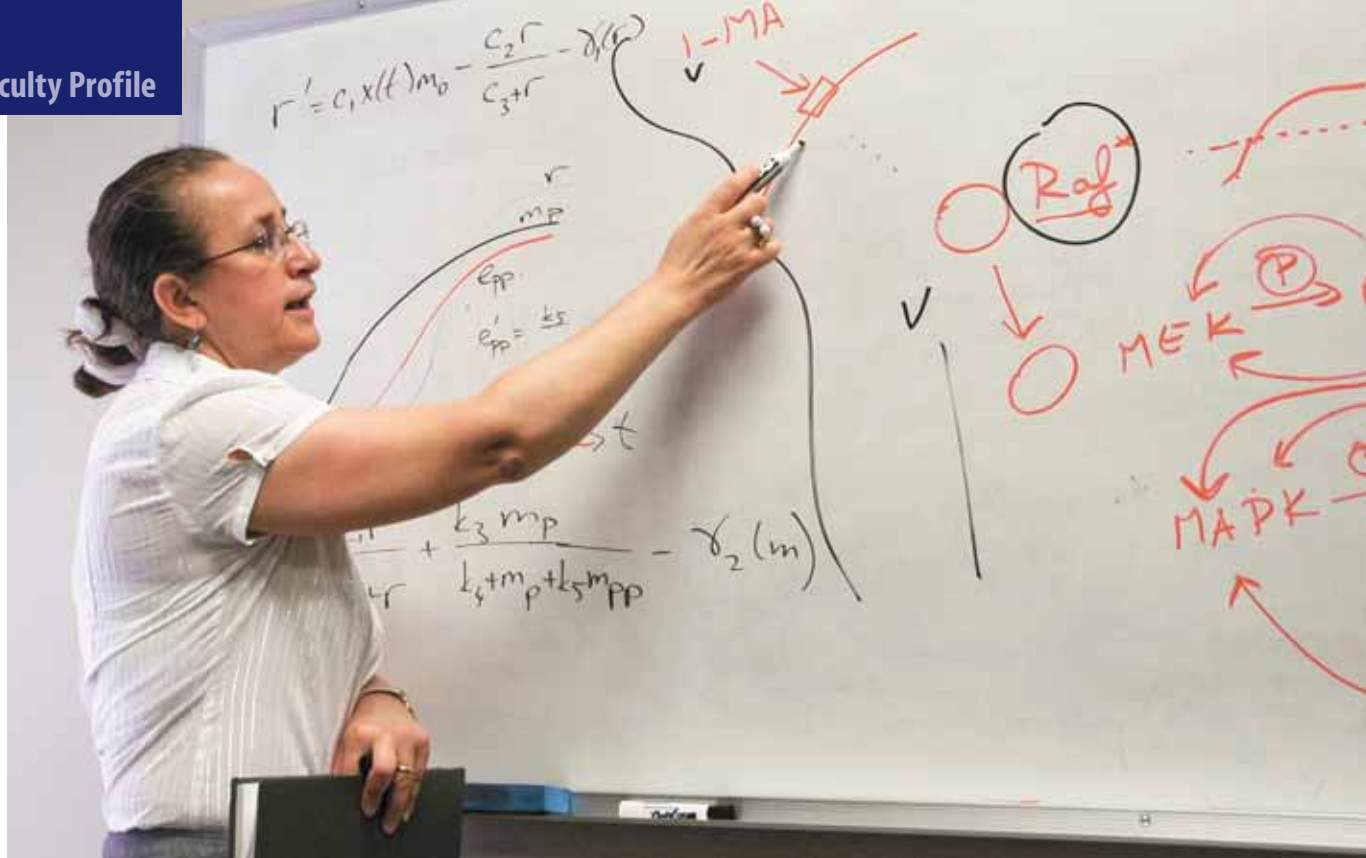
Describe yourself in three words: Honest (Integrity), Intelligent, Committed

Describe your work: Provide executive management and oversight of air force contracted services. Portfolio includes over 170 contracted services programs with a total value of \$150 billion.

Little known fact: I am a doctoral candidate

Notable achievement: Distinguished federal career spanning 24 years with the Department of the Navy, Department of the Army, Office of the Secretary of Defense and Department of the Air Force

Hobbies: Reading, relaxing, conducting leadership workshops and leadership briefings



Semen Koksalska: Defying Equation

Love and math in the same sentence? An equation that doesn't compute for some. Respect, tolerate, appreciate ... sure, but love?

Yet professor and mathematical sciences department head **Semen Koksalska** pairs these two concepts regularly and speaks of her field with such enthusiasm and affection it's contagious.

"Math is the most beautiful subject of all," she exclaims. "It's so elegant. It's not a science by itself, but every science depends on math. Without math, you cannot really do anything."

She explains the critical and analytical thinking skills of mathematics are necessary for every discipline from psychology to law. Therefore, she can't comprehend a lack of math appreciation.

"When people tell me, 'I hate math,' it just breaks my heart," she says. "I cannot understand how math can be boring or something that you hate!"

In her native Turkey, mathematics is praised and encouraged as a study discipline for both

genders, and Koksalska's natural aptitude for the subject made it a logical pursuit. About 85 percent of her undergraduate class was female as were nearly half of her professors.

"When I came to the United States for my Ph.D. studies, it was very surprising to me how uncommon it was for a female to study math, especially at the higher level," she says.

In light of this dichotomy, she takes an active interest in encouraging her brightest students to reach their full potential, regardless of gender.

Her unique research area offers a prime platform for challenging and rewarding young scholars.

Koksalska, together with **Robert Van Woesik** of biological sciences, started collaborative research and education activities in biomathematics at Florida Tech about six

years ago. This interdisciplinary field, at the intersection of biology and mathematics, applies mathematical principles to biological systems. Using mathematical modeling, scientists can study and interpret complex biological interactions.

Through a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant, Koksalska, Van Woesik and three other colleagues—**David Carroll** and **Richard Sinden** from biology and **Eugene Dshalalow** from mathematics—are entering their third year of the Undergraduate Biological and Mathematical (UBM) training program, funding the research of six undergraduate students annually.

Two of Florida Tech's UBM students were invited to present their research at the Beyond BIO2010 Symposium: Celebrations and Opportunities at the National Academy of Sciences in

Washington, D.C., in May. They were among just nine students nationwide selected for this honor.

The success of the UBM program inspired Koksalska and her biomath collaborators to develop a full-fledged undergraduate major in biomathematics beginning this fall. Florida Tech is one of only a dozen universities nationwide offering such a degree at the undergraduate level.

It's poetic when you learn Koksalska was the first graduate of the Florida Tech Ph.D. program in mathematics and today she is head of the department and starting a new interdisciplinary degree program.

She discovered Florida Tech by chance and returned to join the faculty by coincidence.

At a time before e-mail and Internet access made overseas communication commonplace, Koksalska began her search for U.S. doctoral programs at the library. It was there that a friend suggested she apply to Florida Tech.



Following graduation, she had post-doctoral and faculty appointments in Louisiana and Illinois, before her husband's career path landed the family back in Melbourne.

Ironic that fate and love would play a role in the career of a mathematician, but such is Koksalska's story, and igniting a similar love for mathematics in her

students inspires her on a daily basis.

"I always get excited when I teach—my voice rises and my hands move. If I can reflect that excitement, transform that excitement to the students, that really satisfies me the most," she says.

In the classroom, she makes a point of working along with students.

"I don't like to solve a lot of problems before going to teach. To me, it's kind of superficial, mechanical. I like to show the students that the professors also struggle when they're solving problems. If I go to class and solve all the exercises and give students the impression that as soon as I read I know everything and this is what is expected from them as well, it doesn't work."

What does work is combining the unlikely equation—love + math—to excite and encourage the next generation of mathematicians.

Christena Callahan

Faculty Spotlight

Jeff Mitchell, Associate Professor, Space Systems Spaceport Extended Studies Site

Years at Florida Tech: 15

Teaches: Space Power Systems, has also taught Rocket Propulsion, Orbital Mechanics, and Guidance Navigation and Control

Research interests: Space

Hobbies: Auto repair, medieval history reenactments, armor making, brewing beer

Notable achievement: Advising science fiction authors

Describe your teaching style and/or teaching philosophy:

Students are the customer. They pay good money for good instruction. Keep it entertaining, funny, serious and use real examples from the space industry.

What attracted you to your field:

Mercury, Gemini and Apollo moon landings

Favorite thing about Florida Tech:

Students are really interested in learning.



Brian Lail, Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering

Years at Florida Tech: 5

Teaches: Courses in the general area of electromagnetic fields, waves and propagation, including courses in computational electromagnetics, antennas, guided waves and electrodynamics

Research interests: Much of my work is in the design and analysis of antennas and complex structures for the detection or manipulation of electromagnetic fields. I have particular interest in development of antennas for applications in the millimeter-wave, infrared and optical portion of the spectrum.

Hobbies: Running, cycling, surfing

Notable achievement: I received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) in December 2008 at the White House and had the opportunity to meet President George W. Bush.

Describe your teaching style and/or teaching philosophy: To me, teaching covers the realm from course work to research, with the purpose of taking challenging subjects and breaking them down into manageable pieces such that after enough of the pieces have been processed, the student reaches a point at which they can perform independent research and contribute to their field of study.





Florida Tech



A Dream Come True

Nearly every child imagines which career path he or she will follow when they grow up.

Although the road to any dream may be difficult, it can be achieved with hard work, perseverance and patience. As a child, **Rocio "Ro" Hernandez '08** had her sights set on playing soccer. Born in Madrid, Spain, Hernandez moved to the United States at age 16. After graduating from high school, she played one year at the University of Texas at El Paso prior to transferring to Florida Tech.

With the help of first-year coach **Fidgi Haig**, Hernandez began to grasp her potential in 2005. In the team's preseason workouts, he noticed her exceptional talent and moved her from forward to defense. She eventually bought into the idea and became the player her coach imagined.

"By Ro's senior year, she was one of the top center backs in the nation," he said. "She was the whole package."

Hernandez concluded her collegiate career by helping the Panthers post their best record in the program's brief history. In doing so, she became the first

Florida Tech women's soccer player to earn All-South Region honors. Upon graduating, she signed with FC Indiana of the Women's Premier Soccer League (WPSL).

"FC Indiana had a huge impact on my life and career," she said. "The training itself was a reality check. We practiced two times a day for several months. I would have to say Florida Tech prepared me for my first professional experience and FC Indiana prepared me for my professional soccer career."

A few months later, Hernandez helped Puerto Rico vie for a spot in the 2008 Olympics. As a captain, she scored one goal in the country's first-ever win over the Cayman Islands. Even though Puerto Rico did not qualify, she continued her professional career in Russia and competed in the UEFA Champions League Cup.

"When I played in the UEFA Cup, it was a huge moment in my life," she said. "When soccer fans think about the sport, they often think about the World Cup, Champions League and Olympics.

Ro Hernandez currently plays for the California Storm of the Women's Premier Soccer League. Photo: Patricia Giobetti

At that time, I had played in two of those events on the female side. I felt like I made it."

Following her 2008 season, Hernandez joined the WPSL's San Francisco Nighthawks. She once again emerged as a player and went on to hoist the league's Player of the Year award.

At 24 years old, she is now playing for the California Storm along with World Cup hero Brandi Chastain and Brazil star Sissi. During the week, Hernandez trains with FC Gold Pride of Women's Professional Soccer, the top women's league in America.

"Having the chance to practice with FC Gold Pride is probably the most defining moment of my career so far," she said. "I felt like my hard work was once again paying off."

Along with playing in the U.S., Hernandez and Puerto Rico are challenging for a spot in the 2011 women's World Cup. Even after competing professionally, she has not forgotten about Florida Tech's impact on her life.

"Fidgi had a big influence on me as a soccer player and person," she said. "He helped me become more open-minded on the field. Under his guidance, I became more disciplined and a better student. I also had very good professors and teammates that helped me along the way."

As Haig looks back on Hernandez and realizes her post-college success, he could not be more proud of her accomplishments.

"I'm very happy for Ro," Haig said. "Soccer was her endeavor and a path that she chose. It wasn't easy, but she's a perfect example of what happens when you stick to your dreams."

Ryan Jones

Outstanding Athletes

Florida Tech Athletics recognizes its top award winners at the conclusion of the 2009–10 season.

Garnering the two top awards as the Panther Male and Female Athletes of the Year were **Michael Demma** (baseball) and **Sara Trané** (cross country). **Jonathan Hanna** of the men's tennis team earned Tech's Male Scholar Athlete of the Year award while there was a tie on the women's side. Both **Cristina Mazzone** (cross country) and **Danielle Healy** (softball) received plaques as this year's Female Scholar Athletes of the Year.

Demma (Coral Springs), a senior first baseman for the Panthers, finished out the 2010 season as the team's leading hitter with a .362 average at the plate, helping Tech to its second postseason appearance in the last three years. He racked up a team-leading 75 hits, including 18 doubles, nine home runs and 51 RBIs to also lead the squad. He ranked among the Sunshine State Conference leaders in nearly every offensive category and was honored as an All-SSC first team selection.

Trané (Pixbo, Sweden) became the first Panther female runner to earn All-American status as the graduate student finished 18th at the NCAA Division II National Championship meet in November. Among her accolades this year, she was voted as the South Region Female Athlete of the Year and the SSC Runner of the Year. Trané

additionally became Tech's first women's individual regional champion and finished as the top runner at the SSC Championships. She earned five top-five finishes during the season, including four individual wins.

Hanna, a senior aviation management major, graduated with honors from Florida Tech this spring. A native of Nassau, Bahamas, Hanna is the consummate student-athlete, successful both on the court and in the classroom, as well as being heavily involved on campus and in the community. On the tennis court, Hanna earned a winning record in singles and doubles this year and was the team captain each of the last two seasons. He was also a four-year member of Tech's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) and was the vice president this year.

Mazzone (Melbourne), balances her time between running for the cross country team, serving as the SAAC president the past two years and excelling in the classroom as a pre-med major. The senior, along with Hanna, has been a regular fixture on both the SSC and Florida Tech Athletic Director's Honor Rolls throughout her career. She has also been a USTFCCCA All-Academic Team member all three years. Mazzone

is an NSF Biomath Fellowship recipient, a member of the pre-med club on campus, a student ambassador and was a "Best in Show" award winner at the school's recent Student Design Showcase.

Healy (Durham, N.C.) is a three-year member of the Panther softball team and has started in center field each of the last two years. A leader both on and off the field, the biology/pre-med major posted consecutive 4.0 GPAs this year. She has additionally volunteered her time with Florida Tech's SAAC, serving as the group's secretary in 2009–10. The junior finished second on the team in hitting and, just as effective defensively, threw the game-winning out at home plate against 15th-ranked Nova Southeastern on Feb. 21.

Also receiving two of Florida Tech Athletics' top honors were **Natalia Ramos** (tennis) and Hanna as the inaugural Panther Sportsmanship award recipients. Ramos (San Juan, Puerto Rico) was also recognized as the ITA's Arthur Ashe National Leadership and Sportsmanship Award winner and became Florida Tech's first-ever women's tennis All-American, finishing the 2010 season ranked 14th in NCAA Division II singles action. Hanna received the Arthur Ashe Regional Sportsmanship Award.

Rebecca Vick



Michael Demma



Sara Trané



Cristina Mazzone



Jonathan Hanna



Danielle Healy

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Submit your information at www.fit.edu/alumni/ftaaform.html

1980s

Joseph Ilk '89 M.B.A. has earned a Doctor in Business Administration with a concentration in accounting and management information systems. He lives in Spotsylvania, Va.

1990s

Gloria Anne Reece '90, '94 M.S. was named a Fellow by the Society for Technical Communication and honored in a ceremony at the annual conference. She is a senior member of the Society and Governor's Teaching Fellow and contributes to communication and education practices with international reach.

Michelle (Dzielski) Smith '91 and Richard announced the birth of Cassandra Rose in August 2009. Michelle is a dispatcher for US Airways; Richard is a pilot for US Airways. The Smith family resides in Pittsburgh, Pa.



Laurie (Hockridge) Robertson '94 and husband Paul are proud parents to Frankie David. Laurie is a PE teacher; Paul is a policeman. The family lives in Chichester, UK.

Tom Scheuermann '98 and wife Paige welcomed Harbor Thomas in August 2007. Tom is owner of TS Construction and Engineering in Breckenridge, Colo. His e-mail is tom.scheuermann@fmail.com.



Parthasarathy Venkatram '99 M.S., wife Gowri and 5-year-old daughter Gayathri welcomed son Vyasa Achar in February 2010. The new father is a business analyst at Siemens Healthcare in Cary, N.C. The family lives in Morrisville.



2000s

Rebecca (Shaw) Willard '04 and David Willard became parents for the first time when Luciana Marie was born in September 2009. Rebecca is a stay-at-home mom and David is a Navy submarine officer, working at the Pentagon. They currently live in Alexandria, Va.



Elesha Goodfriend '05 and husband Daniel are parents of Haley Emma, 4 years old. She teaches biology at Walters State Community College in Tennessee. Friends may contact her at elesha2@hotmail.com.



Morgan Tweedie '07 and **James Woodard '09** are engaged and have scheduled their wedding for June 17, 2011, in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla. Morgan is a biology/marine science teacher and swim coach at Viera High School; James is with AdvanTek Consulting, Inc. James takes part in Cat 3 bike racing, and Morgan does Masters swimming.

In Memoriam

Daniel Duzak '84 passed away on Nov. 7, 2009. He married Dee Woncik '81 in June of 1983. Their daughter Taylor was born in 1991. The family resided in Sebastian, Fla., where Dan owned a cabinet shop. In 1997, they moved to Roswell, Ga., where Dan continued to work in the cabinet industry.

Patrick Fenneran '02 M.S. died of leukemia in Loganville, Ga., June 6, 2010. He is survived by his wife Sharon, daughter Riley and son Connor.

Jeffrey Simonds '00 died in a car crash on the Seven-Mile Bridge in the Keys, Feb. 18, 2010.

Oceanographer **Joanne Bintz '95** passed away on June 28, 2010 after battling an aggressive form of breast cancer. She was 46. An expert in coastal ecology, she began her ocean science career in Washington, D.C., at the National Academy of Sciences Ocean Studies Board in 2001 while working on the dissertation for a doctoral degree from the University of Rhode Island. She went on to work for the Southeastern Universities Research Association, and most recently began a new job as science and environmental compliance coordinator for the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, also in Washington. A celebration of Joanne's life is being planned for later this summer in Rhode Island. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in her name to Susan G. Komen for the Cure at www.komen.org, or The Ocean Conservancy Rapid Response and Recovery Team in the Gulf at www.ocean-conservancy.org.

Calling all Panther Cubs!

Congratulations on your new arrival!

If you've recently welcomed a new Panther Cub to your family, contact us for your **free infant T-shirt**. Your only obligation is to send us a photo of your baby wearing the shirt—we will proudly display it in this section of *Florida Tech TODAY*.

E-mail hrosskam@fit.edu to receive your shirt.

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To order your Florida Tech specialty license plate visit your local Florida DMV office or order online at www.pointandpay.com/newweb/Dmv_smartcart.htm



Alumni Endorsement Grant

At Florida Tech, your endorsement counts! The deserving student(s) you refer will receive a \$1,000 grant, renewable annually for up to four years, toward their tuition for full-time undergraduate study on the Melbourne campus. You may recommend as many students as you wish.

Florida Tech Legacy Grant

Sons and daughters of Florida Tech alumni, enrolling in a full-time undergraduate program at Florida Tech, are eligible for a \$2,500 grant on top of the alumni endorsement grant. This award is renewable for up to four years.

These awards are given in addition to any merit scholarship earned by the student. For more information and the appropriate forms, go to: www.fit.edu/alumni/services or www.fit.edu/ugrad/financial_aid/scholarships.php

AD-217-406

A simple form that takes 5 minutes to complete can be worth more than \$4,000 to a worthy student.



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City/State/ZIP _____

Year Graduated _____ Degree _____

Employer _____ Business Title _____

E-mail _____

Maiden Name (if applicable) _____ Spouse's Name _____

Children's Names and Ages (if applicable) _____

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Online form available

(Attach additional sheet, if necessary)

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The official website of Florida Tech Athletics

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September

- Sept. 11–Dec. 18 *Fabric of Life: Textiles of Latin America*, Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts <http://textiles.fit.edu>, (321) 674-8313
- 12 *Aces for Autism Tennis Exhibition*, 1–4 p.m., Kiwi Tennis Club, Satellite Beach. Call Scott Center for Autism Treatment at (321) 674-8106
- 16 *Tampa Alumni Reception*, 6–8 p.m., University Club of Tampa (321) 674-7190 www.fit.edu/alumni

October

- 3–9 *Alumni Receptions in the Middle East*
- 11–15 *7th International Conference on High-Performance Marine Vehicles*, E-mail: Prasanta K. Sahoo at psahoo@fit.edu

November

- 3–5 *Human Factors Conference: HCI-Aero 2010: Crew-Ground Operation at Florida Tech and the Institute for Human and Machine Cognition in Pensacola, Fla.* E-mail: hci-aero2010@ihmc.us
- 3–7 *Homecoming 2010*
- 17 *Florida Tech Jazz Syndicate*, 5 p.m., Hartley Room
- 19 *Fall Music Showcase (strings, winds and choir)*, 7 p.m., Gleason Performing Arts Center

December

- 1 *Panther Jazz presents "Scions of Africa: Jazz with African Essence,"* 5 p.m., Hartley Room

ONGOING EVENTS | HELD ON CAMPUS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

For more information on music events: (321) 674-7320 or 674-7248
For Women's Business Center events and classes: <http://wbc.fit.edu>

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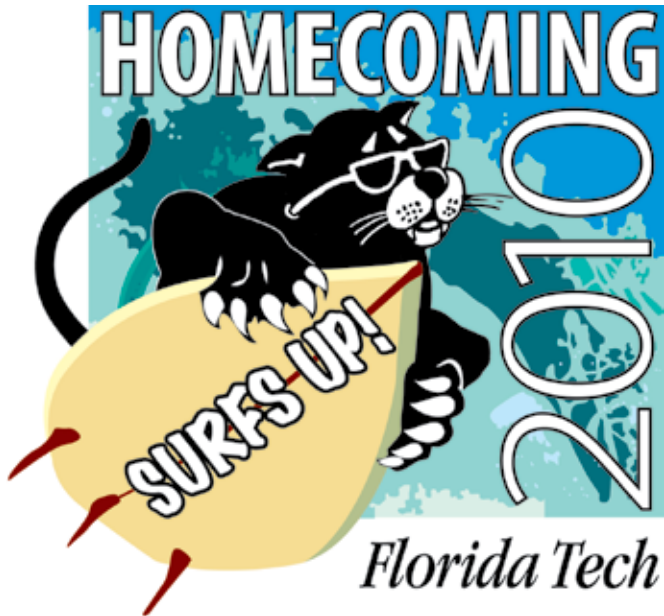
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Florida Institute of Technology
Office of University Communications
150 W. University Blvd.
Melbourne, Florida 32901-6975



Schedule of Events*

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3

Office Decorating Contest
Women's Basketball Exhibition Game

THURSDAY, NOV. 4

Talent/Lip Sync Show—Panthereum
Homecoming Dance—Clemente Center

FRIDAY, NOV. 5

Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting—All Faiths Center
Paw Wow—Southgate Field
Reunion Receptions—Locations TBA
Florida Tech Ice Hockey—Space Coast Ice Plex, Rockledge
College Players Fall Production—Gleason Performing Arts Center
Volleyball Match (vs Tampa)—Clemente Center

SATURDAY, NOV. 6

ASME Yarosh Wiles Scholarship 5K Race
Homecoming Parade
Homecoming and Reunion Barbecue—Panther Plaza and Panthereum
An Afternoon of Entertainment—Panther Plaza and Panthereum
Alumni Association Banquet—TBA
Homecoming Concert—Southgate Field

SEE
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FOR MORE
DETAILS

* Schedule subject to change

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